

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03592 051215Z

44

ACTION ACDA-10

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IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: TIME BETWEEN PHASES: SPC MEETING JULY 3

REF: A. STATE 142419 DTG 172344Z JUN 75;

B. STATE 249100 DTG 121900Z NOV 74

1. SPC ON JULY 3 AGAIN CONSIDERED US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES.

2. FRG REP (HOYNCK) DEVELOPED FRG VIEW ON THE ADDITIONAL US PROPOSAL THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS BE AUTHORIZED TO TELL THE EAST THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE I REDUCTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE SIGNATURE OF THE PHASE II AGREEMENT (REF A). HE SAID THIS PROPOSAL WAS CERTAINLY A STEP FORWARD ON SUBSTANCE. HOWEVER, FRG CONCERN RE TIMING AND TACTICS REMAIN. THE FRG HAS TWO AREAS OF CONCERN IN THIS REGARD. FIRST, THE FRG BE-
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03592 051215Z

LIEVES THAT THE MORE PRECISE THE COMMON CEILING IS, THE SHORTER THE PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN PHASES CAN BE. THUS, ALLIED WORK ON WHETHER TO SPECIFY THE COMMON CEILING NUMERICALLY IN PHASE I, IN CONNECTION WITH OPTION III, WILL INFLUENCE ALLIED WORK

ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES. THE MORE CERTAIN THE ALLIES ARE ABOUT WHERE THEY WILL END UP IN PHASE II, THE MORE THEY CAN TELL THE EAST ABOUT THE TIME BETWEEN PHASES. SECOND, THE ALLIES DO NOT YET KNOW HOW MANY COUNTRIES WILL HAVE TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT WHICH INCLUDES TIME BETWEEN PHASES, AND THUS DO NOT HAVE AN IDEA ABOUT THE TIME NECESSARY FOR RATIFICATION. ALLIES WOULD NEED TO GIVE THE EAST SOME IDEA ON THIS POINT. THUS, FURTHER WORK ON FORM OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD HELP ALLIES DECIDE ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES.

3. BELGIAN REP (WILLOT) AGREED WITH FRG REP THAT THE MORE PRECISE THE COMMON CEILING IS, THE MORE THE ALLIES CAN SHORTEN THE TIME BETWEEN PHASES. HE SAID THE COMMON CEILING IS THE CENTRAL ALLIED OBJECTIVE, AND THE ALLIES NEED TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE GOING ON THAT OBJECTIVE, BEFORE THEY CAN CONSIDER CONCESSIONS TO THE EAST ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES. HE RECALLED THE BELGIAN PAPER ON THE COMMON CEILING (REF B), (WHICH SAID THAT NEGOTIATION OF THE COMMON CEILING WOULD PUT THE QUESTION OF PHASING IN DIFFERENT TERMS).

4. ITALIAN REP (SPINELLI) AGREED THAT ALLIES NEED TO DO MORE WORK ON THE COMMON CEILING AND THE FORM OF THE AGREEMENT BEFORE CHANGING THEIR POSITION ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES.

5. US REP (MOORE) SAID HE DID NOT SEE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE POINT AT WHICH THE COMMON CEILING IS SPECIFIED, AND THE TIME BETWEEN PHASES. THE ALLIES ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEY WANT RE THE LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING, AND THE OTHER SIDE MUST SATISFY THIS ALLIED OBJECTIVE IN THE PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS OR THERE WILL BE NO PHASE II AGREEMENT, REGARDLESS OF THE TIME BETWEEN PHASE I SIGNATURE AND THE BEGINNING OF PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS. US REP ALSO POINTED OUT THAT REGARDLESS OF TIME OF RATIFICATION OF PHASE I AGREEMENT, IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE I REDUCTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE SIGNATURE OF PHASE II AGREEMENT, AND IN ANY EVENT THERE WASN'T MUCH THE ALLIES COULD SAY ABOUT TIME OF RATIFICATION.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 03592 051215Z

6. CANADIAN (BARTLEMAN) AND DUTCH (MEESMAN) REPS REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES, AND SAW NO CONNECTION BETWEEN IT AND THE DEBATE ON WHETHER TO SPECIFY COMMON CEILING IN PHASE I OR PHASE II. UK REP (BAILES), ALTHOUGH UK SUPPORTS US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES, REMAINED SILENT RE QUESTION OF RELATIONSHIP TO SPECIFYING COMMON CEILING IN PHASE I. FRG AND BELGIAN REPS MADE CLEAR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE WORK ON SUBSTANCE OF US PROPOSAL, BUT THAT TIMEING WAS NOT RIGHT AND WOULD DEPEND IN PARTICULAR ON DEVELOPMENT OF ALLIED POSITION ON COMMON CEILING.

7. COMMON: FRG AND BELGIAN OPPOSITION TO THE US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES WAS ORIGINALLY BASED MAINLY ON DESIRE THAT

ALLIES SHOULD AWAIT SUBSTANTIAL SOVIET PHASE I WITHDRAWALS BEFORE BEGINNING PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS. THE US HAS HELPED DISARM THIS ARGUMENT BY ITS SUPPLEMENTARY PROPOSAL THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF PHASE I REDUCTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETE BEFORE PHASE II SIGNATURE. HOWEVER, FRG AND BELGIUM MOVED TO A NEW, MAIN ARGUMENT AT THIS MEETING, I.E., THAT THE MORE PRECISE THE COMMON CEILING WAS, THE SHORTER THE TIME BETWEEN PHASES COULD BE. NEITHER COUNTRY RAISED THIS ARGUMENT PRIOR TO INTRODUCTION OF OPTION III, AND THERE MAY BE AN ELEMENT OF HORSE-TRADING HERE. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT IN RAISING THIS ARGUMENT, FRG AND BELGIUM HAVE SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THE POSSIBILITY OF A SHORTER TIME BETWEEN PHASES, WHICH THEY HAD NOT DONE BEFORE. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS CLEAR THAT AT PRESENT THEY ARE DIGGING IN AGAINST EARLY AGREEMENT ON THE US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT THE SPC HAS GONE ABOUT AS FAR WITH THIS US PROPOSAL AS IT WILL FOR THE PRESENT TIME. WE RECOMMEND THAT, AT THE SPC MEETING ON JULY 10, THE US SUGGEST TEMPORARILY DEFERRING WORK ON THE US PROPOSAL, AND RETURNING TO IT AT A LATER DATE.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 10, TO SUGGEST TEMPORARILY DEFERRING WORK ON US PROPOSAL ON TIME BETWEEN PHASES. BRUCE

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